

I do not think that you should deregulate the rules forcing smaller ownership of the various communication venues. The FCC is an agency for the people, it is not a business that feeds upon the largest amount of revenue it can obtain. The FCC should not act like a business with stockholders, but a public and governmental agency that has it's main focus upon the people in these United States. I've heard the stance that the rules as they stand are antiquated and need to be adjusted with the times. I've also heard old presidents say that they think we should not have a set term limit on the time a president can serve his/her country. They feel that if the public votes for them, they should stay as long as they are wanted. Some may say set term limits is an antiquated idea, but this law was installed to guarantee that we would be a democracy, and not lead by the few. Deregulation is essentially the same thing. It is giving power to the few and taking control out of the hands of the many, the many that your organization was created to protect.

I've also heard the stance the monolithic businesses that are gobbling TV, radio, cable, satellite and internet websites are "giving the public what they want." In the Social Sciences there is a theory called the Agenda Setting Theory. In essence it says that these corporations are the gatekeepers of information. They allow some information in and some information out. But they are the ones who decide what is chosen and what is not. The belief is that this control does not allow the public to decide what we want, but rather, the media give us what they tell us we want. I understand why big business, with its eye constantly on the bottom dollar, want deregulation. What I cannot understand is why an agency supposedly for the people is flirting with the idea of selling out for the most money and allowing a few rich folks control the ideas and news of this country. We have been fighting facism around the world, please do not take us a step closer to being these people.

Thank you,

Tina Halford